

REMARKS

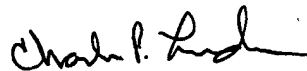
Status of the Claims

Claims 19-21, 27-33 and 56 were pending prior to the Final Office Action dated October 21, 2002. Claims 51-55 have been withdrawn with traverse. Claims 19 and 56 have been amended (Appendix A). Support for the amendments may be found throughout the specification, for example, at least on page 5 lines 20 to 28 and page 24. Thus, no new matter has been added. For convenience, a clean copy of the proposed claims are attached hereto as Appendix B.

CONCLUSION

Applicants request that the amendments provided herein be entered for the purposes of clarifying issues on appeal

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX A: MARKED COPY OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

19. (Twice amended) A method of producing a virus comprising:
- introducing into a host cell a recombinant GBV-B viral expression construct comprising a polynucleotide encoding a 3' terminal sequence of GBV-B, wherein the polynucleotide comprises 50 contiguous nucleotides from SEQ ID NO:1; and culturing said host cell under conditions permitting production of a virus from said construct.
56. (Amended) A method of producing a GBV-B or chimeric GBV-B virus comprising:
- obtaining a virus produced by the method of claim 19;
- introducing the virus into a second host cell; and
- culturing said host cell under conditions permitting production of virus[from said construct].

APPENDIX B: CLEAN COPY OF PROPOSED CLAIMS

19. A method of producing a virus comprising:
introducing into a host cell a recombinant GBV-B viral expression construct comprising a polynucleotide encoding a 3' terminal sequence of GBV-B, wherein the polynucleotide comprises 50 contiguous nucleotides from SEQ ID NO:1; and culturing said host cell under conditions permitting production of a virus from said construct.
20. The method of claim 19, wherein said polynucleotide comprises 100 contiguous nucleotides from SEQ ID NO:1.
21. The method of claim 20, wherein said polynucleotide comprises SEQ ID NO:1.
27. The method of claim 19, wherein said host cell is a prokaryotic cell.
28. The method of claim 19, wherein said host cell is a eukaryotic cell.
29. The method of claim 28, wherein said host cell is in an animal.
30. The method of claim 19, wherein said polynucleotide comprises recombinant RNA.
31. The method of claim 19, wherein said polynucleotide comprises recombinant DNA.
32. The method of claim 19, further comprising the step of isolating virus from said host cell.
33. The method of claim 32, wherein said virus is purified to homogeneity.
56. A method of producing a GBV-B or chimeric GBV-B virus comprising:
obtaining a virus produced by the method of claim 19;
introducing the virus into a second host cell; and
culturing said host cell under conditions permitting production of virus.